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TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

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TAGS: EINV, ETRD

SUBJECT: COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (GSP) UNDER SECS. 502 (B) (4) AND (6) OF TITLE V OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974

REF: (A) STATE 282968; (B) STATE 282967

1. AS REPORTED REF B, BEFORE GSP CAN BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE TRADE ACT OF 1974, THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

(ITC) MUST INVESTIGATE THE DOMESTIC ECONOMIC EFFECT OF PREFERENTIAL DUTY-FREE TARIFF TREATMENT ON IMPORTS OF THOSE ARTICLES PROPOSED FOR SUCH TREATMENT FROM COUNTRIES DESIGNATED IN AN EXECUTIVE ORDER AS BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS MESSAGE DISCUSSES COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE NATIONALIZATION AND ARBITRATION PROVISIONS OF THE ACT.

- 2. SEC 502 (B) (4) OF TITLE V OF THE ACT PROHIBITS THE PRESIDENT FROM DESIGNATING AS ELIGIBLE FOR GSP ANY COUNTRY WHICH HAS NATIONALIZED THE PROPERTY OF U.S. CITIZENS (INCLUDING CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS OR ASSOCIATIONS 50 PERCENT OR MORE BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY U.S. CITIZENS), OR TAKEN OTHER ACTIONS WITH SIMILAR EFFECT, UNLESS HE DETERMINES THAT FAIR COMPENSATION IS BEING PAID, THAT DETERMINES THAT FAIR COMPENSATION IS BEING PAID, THAT SUCH COUNTRY IS QUOTE OTHERWISE TAKING STEPS TO DISCHARGE ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, END QUOTE OR THAT THE PARTIES HAVE SUBMITTED THE DISPUTE TO ARBITRATION. SEC 502 (B) (6) APPLIED A SIMILAR PROHIBITION TO ANY COUNTRY WHICH FAILS TO ACT IN GOOD FAITH TO RECOGNIZE AS BINDING OR TO ENFORCE AN ARBITRAL AWARD IN FAVOR OF U.S. CITIZENS (AGAIN INCLUDING CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS OR ASSOCIATIONS 50 PERCENT OR MORE BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY U.S. CITIZNES). FYI. UNLIKE THE HICKENLOOPER AMEND-MENT (SEC 620 (E) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT), SEC 502 (B) (4) (D) REQUIRES A PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION TO BE MADE AND FURNISHED TO CONGRESS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THAT SUBSECTION TO ALL UNRESOLVED DISPUTES. THIS NEW REQUIREMENT REINFORCES THE NEED FOR THE USG TO MONITOR AND TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING OUTSTANDING DISPUTES INVOLVING U.S. PROPERTY. END FYI.
- 3. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE FOR THE ITC TO UNDERTAKE ITS PRODUCT REVIEW WITH RESPECT TO THE BROADEST POSSIBLE LIST OF POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES, AND FOR THE COMMISSION TO BEGIN ITS WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE WOULD PREFER TO CONDUCT A DETAILED INVESTIGATION OF CASES WHICH MIGHT AFFECT HOST COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY UNDER SECS. 502 (B) (4) AND (6) WHILE THE ITC STUDY IS IN PROGRESS. FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSIONS WITH CONGRESSIONAL STAFFS, HOWEVER, IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THE INTERIM WAIVER MENTIONED PARA 4 REF B WILL BE USED. SEVERAL ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF ACCOMPLISHING OUR OBJECTIVE ARE ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DETERMINATIONS OF COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY MAY HAVE TO BE MADE BEFORE THE ITC CAN BEGIN ITS PRODUCT ANALYSIS.

- 4. DEPARTMENT NOTES ALGIERS 0117 REPORTING SETTLEMENT OF PROCTER AND GAMBLE NATIONALIZATION CLAIM AND INDICATING THAT ONLY PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL CLAIMS AGAINST GOA REMAIN UNRESOLVED. RECENT EMBASSY REPORTING AND EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND FILES ON THESE CLAIMS WILL ENABLE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE DETERMINATION CONCERNING HOST COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY UNDER SECS. 502 (B) (4) AND (6). HOWEVER, PARAS 1 THROUGH 3 ABOVE FURNISHED FYI AND POST VIEWS ON APPLICATION OF CRITERIA TO ALGERIA WILL BE WELCOME.
- 5. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE MISSION COMMENTS REGARDING WHAT STEPS USG MIGHT APPROPRIATELY TAKE TO BRING THESE PROVISIONS TO THE ATTENTION OF HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND TO ENCOURAGE RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING DISPUTES. KISSINGER

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